



**Date:** June 16, 2004

**To:** Inter-Regional Partnership

**From:** IRP Staff

**RE:** IRP Work Plan, 2004/2005

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## Background

At the October 2003 IRP meeting, the IRP adopted a work plan that outlined IRP activities for the 2004/2005 fiscal year. At the last IRP meeting, staff was asked to present ideas for “future agenda items” to the IRP members. This work plan serves as a discussion pieces for those future topics.

Statewide IRP staff met recently to discuss the final report and activities related to the end of the State funding provided through Senator Torlakson’s legislation of 2000. At that meeting, it was recognized that the work of IRPs was in an early phase, and that continued support for the IRPs was essential. Support for continuation of the IRPs is evident from the California Council of Governments (CALCOG). In addition, the new director of the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has been participating in a Southern California IRP for some time and understands the value of continuing this program.

This IRP (Bay and Valley) has discussed a wide number of solutions to inter-regional problems and issues. We have tested the Jobs/Housing Opportunity Zones, and continue to compile data. We recognize from this exercise that solutions and pattern changes require long term evaluation and commitment.

The relationships established between our regions have been strengthened through the work undertaken thus far. New relationships can be forged by bringing in greater discussion and participation by MPOs and air management districts. The following agenda and work plan items are meant to take the next steps for the IRP.

## Discussion

### *Focus Areas from Work plan*

The work plan attached to last month’s report details activities adopted by the IRP during 2003. It looks to the future by identifying a number of areas for study and discussion.

The work plan is organized chronologically in a calendar format. Each IRP meeting date is listed along w/ topics for discussion. These topics relate directly to the growth impacts that have been identified as relevant to the region. These impacts include:

- Regional Land Use Patterns
- Inter-Regional Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Economic Development
- Air Quality

Staff suggests that the IRP consider an agenda item at the next meeting that will focus on new partners to bring to the table.

#### *Budget/Meeting Schedule/ Workload*

The IRP will have exhausted its State funding at the end of this fiscal year, July 2004. Beyond this point in time, the IRP funding will be limited to support from each of the COGs and any other resources that the IRP membership, with staff support, are able to bring forward. A letter seeking funding from a wide variety of sources has been drafted and signed by all IRP members. Outreach to agencies and others who might support the IRP will take place into the fall. Members will be requested to make personal contacts and potentially presentations to boards in support of the IRP mission.

Staff from each of the COGs will be available to coordinate meetings, arrange for speakers and to do limited research and reporting on topics of interest. Beyond this commitment, resources are not currently available for extensive study and research into interest areas identified by the IRP. Should the above noted fund raising efforts be successful, staff will present an expanded work scope that can be delivered within the available resources.

The work program provided and budget implications noted will have a direct impact on the function of the IRP. Staff believes it is in the best interest of the IRP and related partners that the IRP continue its work. To that end, staff is interested in the members support for the work program. A sorting of the agenda items and prioritizing of issues would be of great value on several fronts.

- It would provide staff with an idea of the IRP members support for continued activities
- It would provide focus to IRP fundraising efforts in terms available funding opportunities
- It would provide guidance as to the work flow for the following fiscal year and beyond.

#### **Requested Action**

1. Discuss and make recommendations to staff on priority topics for future discussion and work.
2. Direct staff on appropriate resources to pursue and discuss commitment from the current participating membership.